

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 31, 2006 has been received and considered. In this response, claims 1, 7, 13, 19, and 28 have been amended. Support for the amendments may be found in the specification and drawings as originally filed. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in the present application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Rejection of claims 1-32

According to the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mark (US Publication No. 2003/0060746). Claims 7, 9-10, 13-16, 19-20, and 22-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Crane (U.S. Patent No. 6,811,341). Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mark. Claims 8, 11-12, 17, 21 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crane in view of D'Alessio et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,595,940). Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crane in view of Mark. Independent claims 1, 7, 13, 19, and 28 have been amended to recite a burstable material that breaks apart due to an increase in internal pressure. As indicated by the Office Action at page 2, these elements are not disclosed by any of the cited references. Further, the cited references fail to disclose each and every element of dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, 14-18, 20-27, and 29-32, at least by virtue of their respective dependence on claims 1, 7, 13, 19, and 28.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 1-32 are improper. Withdrawal of the rejections and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

Applicants believe no additional fees are due, but if the Commissioner believes additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date